

**Maryland Historical Trust  
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

Survey No. B-2269

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic 304 North Howard Street  
and/or common Africenters Artistic Hair Designs

**2. Location**

street & number 304 N. Howard Street    not for publication  
city, town Baltimore    vicinity of    congressional district     
state Maryland    county Baltimore   

**3. Classification**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Ownership</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Present Use</b>
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture <u>  </u> museum
<u>  </u> building(s)	<u>  </u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial <u>  </u> park
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational <u>  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> entertainment <u>  </u> religious
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> government <u>  </u> scientific
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> industrial <u>  </u> transportation
	<u>  </u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> military <u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Honolulu Ltd.  
street & number 5518 Baltimore National Pike telephone no. MD 21228  
city, town Baltimore state and zip code

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore City Courthouse liber  
street & number 100 N. Calvert Street, Room 610 folio  
city, town Baltimore state MD

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title  
date    federal    state    county    local  
depository for survey records  
city, town state

## 7. Description

Survey No. B-2269

### Condition

☒ excellent  
☐ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site  
☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Resource Count: 1

This circa 1900 commercial building faces east on North Howard Street and abuts two partywall structures. The three-story, enframed window wall design has brick piers flanking a glazed window are set in cast iron surrounds. The building has a street frontage of 22' and a depth of 120'.

The first story has been substantially altered. The facade is covered by cast concrete panels enframing a glass curtain wall. A glazed area in the south edge contains a glass door flanked by display windows. A metal door is cut into the north side of the facade and leads to the upper stories. The metal ribbing for an awning is suspended over the first story. The ribbing is embellished by multi-colored pennants. Above the awning is a banner with the store's name.

The second and third stories are unaltered. Brick piers run up the edges of the building. The windows are recessed into the wall. Each story has three 1/1 sash windows set in cast iron surrounds. The recessed spandrel between the stories is ornamented with raised scrolling vine patterns. A row of egg and dart molding runs around the perimeter of the spandrel. The top of the spandrel has a second, bolder row of egg and dart molding, and the bottom of the spandrel has a second, delicate row of egg and dart molding. The soffit above the third story has cast iron fields.

A combination lintel-cornice runs across the top of the third story windows. The cornice continues over the tops of the piers, forming capitals. The cornice profile consists of fillet, ogee, back band, fillet and back band.

A tall, brick parapet wall is bisected by a bolder cast iron cornice. The projecting cornice is supported by scrolled brackets embellished with acanthus leaves. An egg and dart molding course runs below the cornice. The cornice turns the corners of the parapet wall on the north side, but it is sheared off by the partywall building to the south. The roof edge of the parapet is capped by a simple quarter-round and fillet cornice.

The back (west) wall follows the enframed window design. Brick piers run up the edges. The first story is re-bricked, and now has two metal doors and an exhaust vent cut in. The second and third story central expanse of windows is now boarded up. A simple, narrow cast iron cornice separates the second and third floors. The cornice is of three-corbelled brick courses.

The interior is finished with wallboard and acoustic tile ceiling.

## 8. Significance

Survey No. B-2269

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates \_\_\_\_\_ Builder/Architect unknown

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The architectural design of this three-story, one-bay, commercial building is an example of an enframed window wall with classical detailing. Architectural historian Richard Longstreth writes that the enframed window wall design was "most commonly used for retail stores" and that the design "reflects an effort to give greater order to the facade composition of small and moderate-sized commercial buildings."<sup>1</sup> The tripartite windows in the second and third stories are indicative of the commercial usage of the upper story, as well as the first story. The separate first-story entrance accessing the upper stories suggests that the building was constructed to hold more than one tenant, and that separate entrances were desirable. This separation of zones and access further suggest that the building was not used as a combination retail-manufacturing space for one business.

The degree of ornamentation and massing in this particular building falls in the middle of enframed window wall buildings on Howard Street. It is more ornate than several enframed window wall buildings in the unit block of North Howard Street, but is smaller in scale and less detailed than the one found at 109 North Howard Street. The enframed window wall is embellished with ornamental cast iron spandrels with raised scrolling patterns which break up the glass "inset" in the wall. The cornice is finely treated with curved brackets and an egg-and-dart molding.

The three-story height is indicative of the middling land values in this section of Howard Street. Further south, four- and five-story buildings predominate, but from this point north most of Howard Street is built up with three-story buildings.

The post-World War Two alterations to the first story created a "modern" commercial design aesthetic. The use of traditional materials steel and plate glass were combined to modernize the appearance of the street-level shop into a floor-to-ceiling display window.

<sup>1</sup> Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street, pp. 69, 68.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. B-2269

Richard Longstreth, The Buildings of Main Street (Washington:  
The Preservation Press, 1987).

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property \_\_\_\_\_

Quadrangle name Baltimore East Quad

Quadrangle scale \_\_\_\_\_

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A 

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Zone Easting Northing

B 

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Zone Easting Northing

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Diane Shaworganization CHAP, Room 1037date December 17, 1991street & number 417 E. Fayette Streettelephone 301-396-4866city or town Baltimorestate MD

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by  
an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated  
Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and  
record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of  
individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCO  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
301-514-7600

**COMPREHENSIVE PLAN DATA**

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

Geographic Organization:  
Piedmont

Chronological/Developmental Period:  
Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930  
Modern Period, 1930-present, alterations

Historic Period Themes:  
Architecture  
Economics

Resource Type:  
Building

Historic Environment:  
Urban

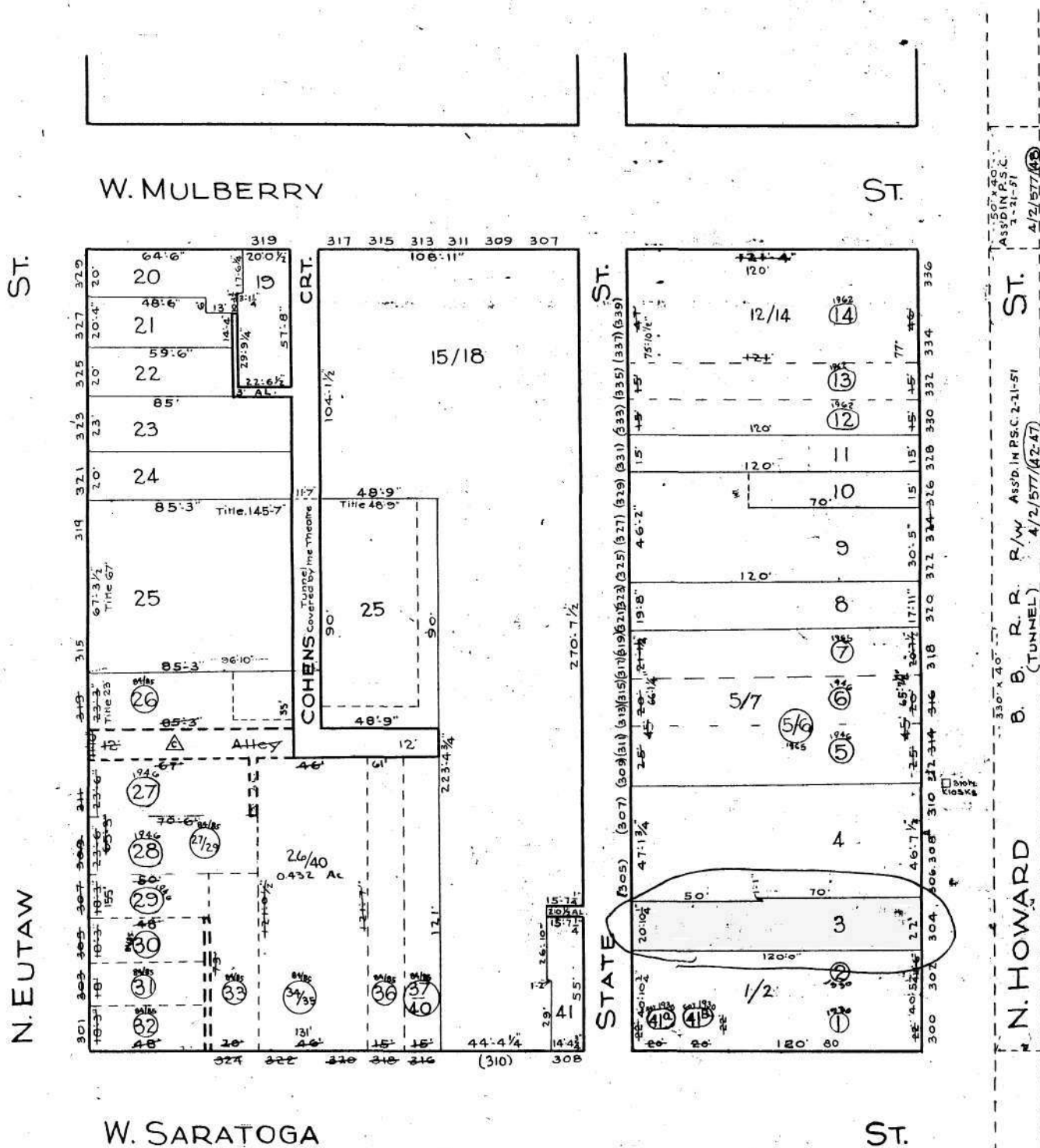
Historic Function and Use:  
Commercial

Known Design Source:  
None



## REVISIONS

Lots 546 also 27 to 29 consid per Apps. C. Sh. 3513  
 Lots 42/47, 48, Ass'd. in P.S.C., Per BofA, C. Sh. 5278.  
 Lots 12, 13 & 14 CONSID PER APP. C. SH. 8880  
 Lots 3/6 & 7 CONSID PER APP. C. SH. 9440  
 Lot 26 THRU 37/40 CONSID PER R/S M. FIELD CSH 85-203



△ DENOTES ALLEY CLOSED IN FIELD

**NOTICE**

THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED FOR UNDER ARTICLE 764 OF THE CITY CHARTER. IT IS SUBMITTED NOW, WHILE THE CITY OF SAN JOSE IS NOT AN INTERESTED PARTY.

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
BUREAU OF PLANS & SURVEYS  
PROPERTY LOCATION DIVISION

SECTION 2  
BLOCK 577

ACED BY C. H. BAIN  
 C. H. BAIN  
 TTERED BY Joseph Rokosky



B-2269

304 N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPO

Facade, east elevation

1/2





B-2269

300 Block alley of N. Howard St.

Baltimore MD

Diane Shaw

8/91

Maryland SHPD

Reer alley of 300 block (west elevations)

2/2

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

B-2269 Blk 577  
MAGI #0422695811

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

**1 NAME**

HISTORIC

AND/OR COMMON

Hahn Shoes

**2 LOCATION**

STREET & NUMBER

300-4 N. Howard Street

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

STATE

Maryland

VICINITY OF

COUNTY

**3 CLASSIFICATION**

**CATEGORY**

☐ DISTRICT  
☒ BUILDING(S)  
☐ STRUCTURE  
☐ SITE  
☐ OBJECT

**OWNERSHIP**

☐ PUBLIC  
☒ PRIVATE  
☐ BOTH

**PUBLIC ACQUISITION**

☐ IN PROCESS  
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

**STATUS**

☒ OCCUPIED  
☐ UNOCCUPIED  
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS  
**ACCESSIBLE**  
☐ YES: RESTRICTED  
☒ YES: UNRESTRICTED  
☐ NO

**PRESENT USE**

☒ AGRICULTURE  
☒ COMMERCIAL  
☐ EDUCATIONAL  
☐ ENTERTAINMENT  
☐ GOVERNMENT  
☐ INDUSTRIAL  
☐ MILITARY  
☐ MUSEUM  
☐ PARK  
☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE  
☐ RELIGIOUS  
☐ SCIENTIFIC  
☐ TRANSPORTATION  
☐ OTHER:

**4 OWNER OF PROPERTY**

NAME

Telephone #:

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

VICINITY OF

STATE, zip code

**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE,  
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Records Office Room 601

Liber #:

Folio #:

STREET & NUMBER

Baltimore City Courthouse

CITY, TOWN

Baltimore

STATE

Maryland 21202

**6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS**

TITLE

City of Baltimore Neighborhood Survey

DATE

1976

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☒ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR  
SURVEY RECORDS

COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &  
ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION

CITY, TOWN

Room 900

STATE

26 South Calvert St.  
Baltimore, Md. 21202

**7 DESCRIPTION****CONDITION**

☐ EXCELLENT  
☒ GOOD  
☐ FAIR

☐ DETERIORATED  
☐ RUINS  
☐ UNEXPOSED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ UNALTERED  
☐ ALTERED

**CHECK ONE**

☒ ORIGINAL SITE  
☐ MOVED DATE \_\_\_\_\_

**DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE**

This commercial structure, located on the NW corner of Howard and Saratoga streets, is three stories high. It is designed in the Art Deco style, and is surfaced in block concrete.

The Howard Street facade has a tripartite ground floor. A concrete framed picture window fills the right flank, recessed double doors fill the center, and a tripartite picture window slants across the corner of the ground floor. A large awning spans the entire width. Unbroken concrete blockwork rises above the awning to a stone course separating the first and second floors.

Resting on the course are 5 evenly-spaced, projecting two story cement pilasters, capped by decorative capitals. To either side of this grouping is concrete. Four double-hung (1/1 lights) windows are framed by the pilasters on each of the upper floors. Those on the second floor have decorative rails. Above the third story windows is a decorative frieze, interrupted only by the pilasters. A stepped concrete parapet rises above the capitals.

The Saratoga Street facade is similar to that along Howard Street, although much wider. In the center of the ground floor are four cement-framed picture windows with individual awnings. To the left are two segmental-arched recessments of concrete; to the right, another picture window adjoined to the aforementioned slanted corner window. An awning, continued from the Howard Street facade, spans these windows.

The upper floors are much the same as those of the Howard Street facade. Fifteen pilasters are arrayed through the facade with window configurations similar to the other facade, except between the third and fourth as well as twelfth and thirteenth pilasters, where concrete blocks fill the space. Courses frieze and parapet are carried over from the other facade.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

**8 SIGNIFICANCE****PERIOD****AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW**

<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

**SPECIFIC DATES****BUILDER/ARCHITECT****STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE**

Although radically altered at the street level, the upper floors retain this structure's original art deco design. The building dates from the early 1930's and is stylistically harmonious with the art deco facade of Hutzler's.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

# 9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

## 10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY \_\_\_\_\_

### VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE	COUNTY
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STATE	COUNTY
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## 11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE      Planning Assistants

ORGANIZATION	COMMISSION FOR HISTORICAL &	DATE	1976
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STREET & NUMBER	ARCHITECTURAL PRESERVATION	TELEPHONE
	Room 900	

CITY OR TOWN	26 South Calvert St.	STATE
	Baltimore, Md. 21202	

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Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 267-1438



B-2269

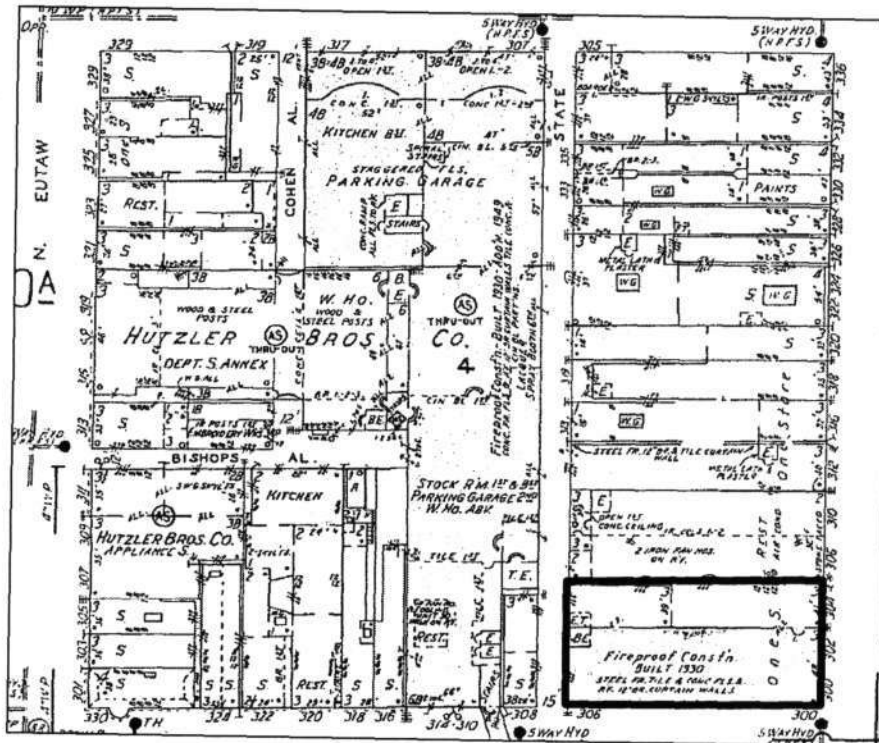
Hahn Shoes & Africenters Artistic Hair Designs

300-304 N. Howard Street, Baltimore

Baltimore City iMap image, 2006

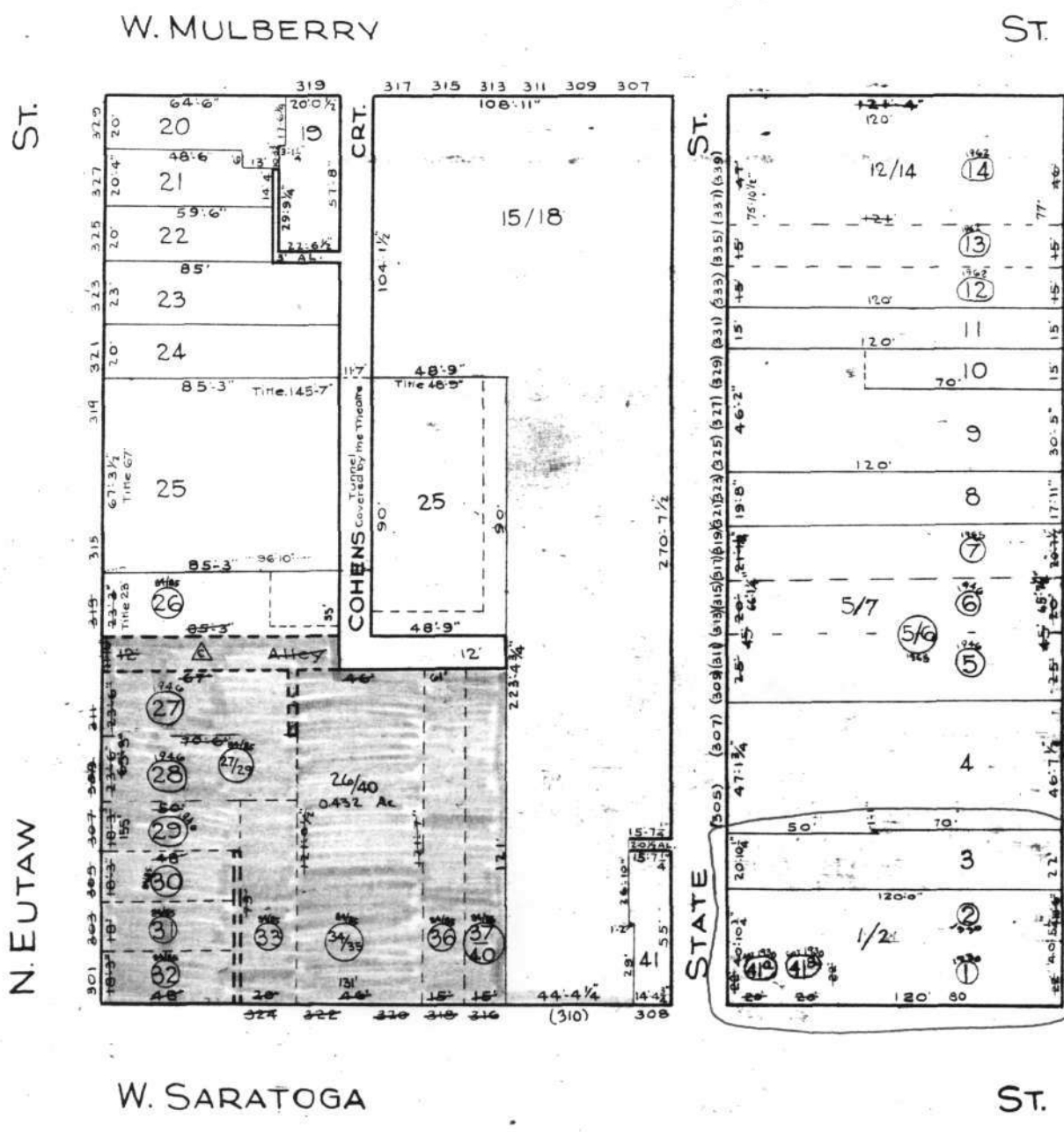


Sanborn Map 1914, revised 1953



B-2269

REVISIONS  
1. 3/16/66 also 27 to 29 consid per App. C. Sh. 3513  
2. 4/27/47, 48, Ass'd. in P.S.C., Per BofA, C. Sh. 5278.  
3. 12/13/14 CONVD Per App. C. Sh. 3830  
4. 5/16/17 CONVD Per App. C. Sh. 9440  
5. 26 THRU 37/40 CONVD PER APP. M. C. SH. 85-203



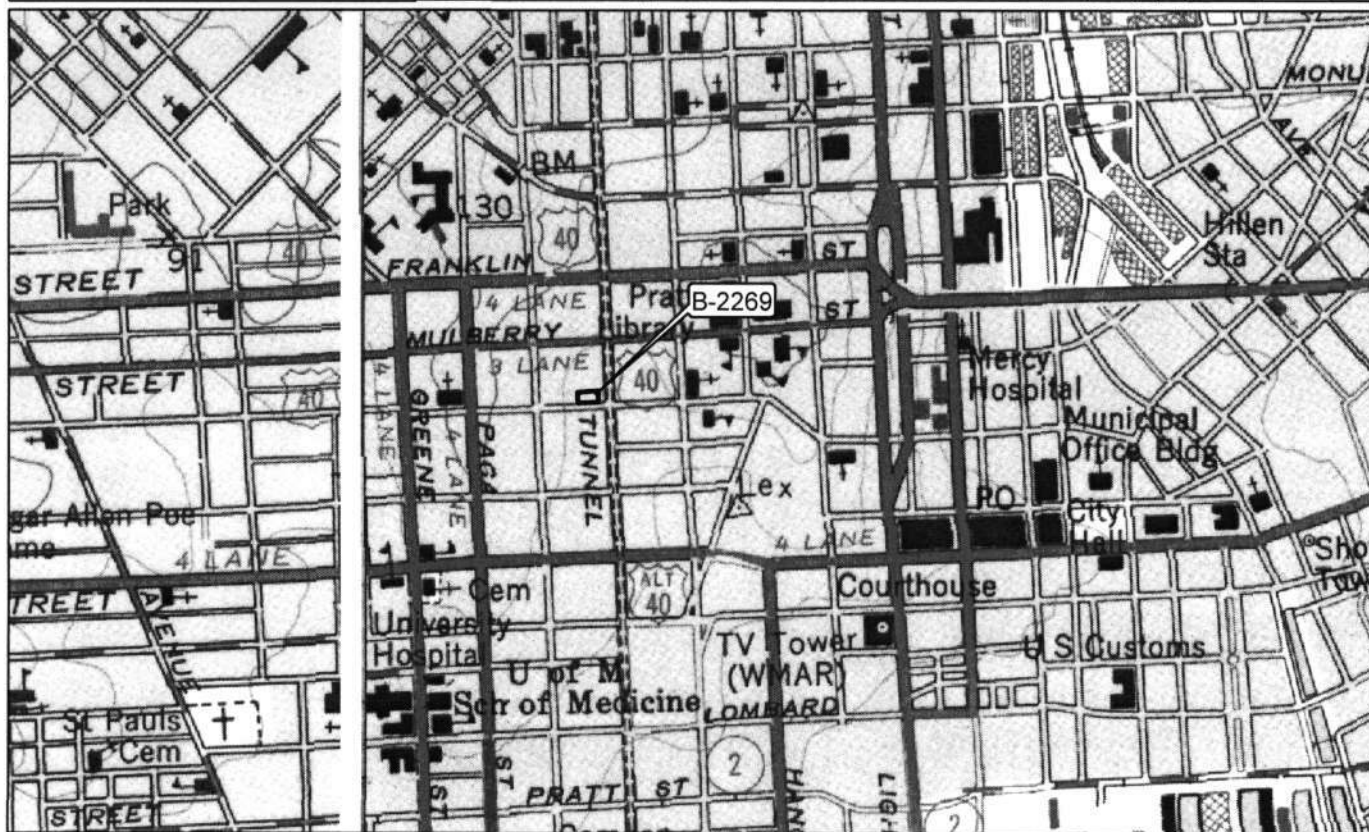
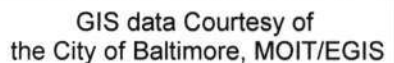
ASS'D. IN P.S.C.  
2-31-51  
4/2/57/48  
ST.  
R. R. R/W ASS'D. IN P.S.C. 2-31-51  
4/2/57/42-47  
ST.  
B. B. R. R. (TUNNEL)  
N. HOWARD  
330' x 40'

CEDED BY C. H. BAIN  
CREATED BY J. S. J. K. K. K.

NOTICE  
THIS IS A REAL PROPERTY PLAT AS PROVIDED  
FOR UNDER ARTICLE 744 OF THE CITY CHARTER  
IT IS COMPILED FROM TITLE AND OTHER

CITY OF BALTIMORE  
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC  
WORKS  
BUREAU OF PLANS &  
PROPERTY LOCATION  
WARD 4 SECT 577

Hahn Shoes/Africenters Artistic Hair Designs  
300-304 N. Howard Street  
Block 0577, Lots 001 & 003  
Baltimore City  
Baltimore East Quad.





300-04 N. Howard

48

B-2269

Neg # 6 (3)

2/76

B. Pencek